

Kingston Fire District
Board of Wardens' Meeting
March 27, 2008

Call to Order: President Elizabeth McNab called the KFD Board of Wardens meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Also present were wardens Lori Horton, Vin Rose, John Oberle and Donald Cobb, Treasurer Thomas Vignali, Tax Collector Linda Mendillo, Deputy Chief Keith Notarianni, Chief Nathan Barrington and Kevin Culley from URI.

MOTION: Rose made and Cobb seconded a motion to accept the Secretary's Report from February 28, 2008 as amended.

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Rose made and Oberle seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer's Report: The URI Student Alumni Association still owes payment to KFD for the fire detail from the Rhody Rally. The respiratory protection expenditure has gone over budget as of the date of this meeting. James Martufi has reimbursed the Kingston Fire District for an external overcharge regarding the repairs made from the boiler malfunction. Currently, the federal interest rate has dropped down to 2.18%. As a result of this drop in the interest rate, the interest on the investments for 2008-2009 will be approximately \$6,700. These funds are used for operations.

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Rose made and Cobb seconded a motion to accept the Tax Collector's report.

MOTION: Rose moved and Horton seconded a motion to abate the tax amount of \$6.36 for Pier Pizza.

The motion passed unanimously.

Tax Collector's Report: Tax Collector Mendillo has received 39 responses to her second request letters. She recently spoke to Mary Ann Packer, Tax Assessor for the Town of South Kingstown, regarding going to tax sale. The R.I. Housing Authority must be notified when tax sale proceedings begin.

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Horton made and Oberle seconded a motion to accept the URI Report.

URI Report: The Hall Director at Dorr Hall is making progress with removing excessive combustible materials from his room. Design work is in process for the alarm systems at Gateway and Grad Village apartment. The R.I. Fire Marshal gave the approval to take out the center stair at Tyler Hall. There is another meeting scheduled for April 10, 2008 to review the Independence Hall bomb scare incident.

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Rose made and Cobb seconded a motion to accept the Deputy Chief's report.

Deputy Chief's Report: Deputy Chief Notarianni reported that Engine 9 has returned from Greenwood where it was repainted due to bubbling paint. The Hall Director at Dorr Hall will put his set of keys in the knox box. The Union Fire District's Ladder 1 will be out of service for a long period of time and KFD Ladder 2 will be responding to its calls. The Middlebridge accident victim was air lifted to Rhode Island Hospital. The Deputy Chief reported that the firefighters from Kingston did a great job with stabilization when they assisted at the accident on Gooseberry Road. The Kingston Volunteer Fire Department holds extrication drills once a month.

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Rose made and Oberle seconded a motion to accept the Chief's report.

Chief's Report: The Chief is going to meet with Deputy State Fire Marshal, Christopher Moore, to discuss events at Edwards Auditorium.

The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

The 2008 Annual Meeting is scheduled to be held in the Kingston Fire District conference room. If necessary, the meeting can also be held at the Kingston Congregational Church.

KFD Budget

The tax rate will increase to .61 cents per 1,000. This is one percentage point higher than last year's tax rate. The capital outlay and fuel line items were modified on the projected budget that was presented at the last meeting. Also, the equipment maintenance figure will be a slightly different figure on the budget. The KFD will not purchase equipment cutters for the vehicles under the new budget. This revised budget will be the one presented at the Budget Hearing.

Old Business:

The 2006 and 2007 football game fire details are in the process of being paid to the Kingston Fire District per Vern Wyman at today's Finance Committee meeting.

Tax Collector Linda Mendillo left the meeting at approximately 9:15 p.m.

Old Business (Continued):

A lengthy discussion took place regarding changing the firefighter detail uniform. Chief Barrington stated that the Kingston Fire District has never been in the uniform business. Bob Weygand of the University of Rhode Island has agreed to only change the firefighter shirt to a white polo shirt. Horton asked if the firefighter shirt could be light blue and his

response was “No”. Mr. Weygand is willing to increase the fire detail rate to pay for the new shirts. He feels strongly that white polo shirts should be worn by the KFD firefighters to events at Memorial Union, Chafee, Edwards Auditorium and the Ryan Center. Chief Barrington said that a white shirt is traditionally used for a Chief Officer. He suggested the light blue shirt be reserved for the firefighters and white shirts could be worn by the Officer in Charge at fire details. There was discussion about whether or not the Wardens should dictate uniform policy to the Fire Company because of the strong objection of the Fire Company members present at the meeting.

MOTION: Rose made and Horton seconded a motion to table the discussion about uniforms until the next Wardens’ meeting on April 24, 2008.

_____ The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Oberle made and Rose seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

_____ The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Marcoux